

Reunion

The Lyons family of Yankton hosted a family reunion on the weekend of Aug. 9, for the descendants of Jeremiah and Ellen Lyons, who left Ireland in 1845 and came to America. A picnic supper was held Friday evening for 83 relatives at the Pat and Pearl Lyons farm, east of Yankton. It was hosted by Mary C. Lyons and her six sons and daughter and their spouses. On Saturday, a luncheon was held at the Black Steer Restaurant for 120 relatives who gathered from 34 states. The program featured readings, poetry, family recollections and stories recounting the history of the Lyons family immigration to Lake County, Dakota Territory; near Madison in the 1880s. The Lyons family tree, 1845 to the present, was on display for everyone to autograph, update and amend. The remaining two grandchildren of the Lyons family founders were present: Bob Lyons, Wagner, and Mary Lyons Robinson, Flagstaff, Ariz. The recent publication of three books by and about the family was celebrated. The books included "The Nunda Irish," by Bill McDonald, Stillwater, Minn., an account of the family history in Ireland and South Dakota up to World War II; and a collection of essays by Thomas D. Lyons, contained in two books, "First Dakotans," and "Oklahoma Days." The essays originally appeared in The Commonweal Magazine in the early 1940s and provide a firsthand account of the Lyons' pioneering experiences. On Monday, Aug. 5, in Vermillion a presentation of the portrait of Richard F. Lyons, Sr., mayor of Vermillion from 1916-1918 and pioneer homesteader, was made to Betty Lynn, mayor of Vermillion, and the city council. "First Dakotans" was presented to the Vermillion City Library. The presentation was preceded by a dinner for the Lyons family and five former mayors of Vermillion.

LYONS FAMILY REUNION THE BLACK STEER YANKTON, SOUTH DAKOTA

August 10, 1991 - Saturday

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| 11:00 A.M. | REGISTRATION
<i>VISITING</i>
<i>EXHIBITS-PHOTOS-LETTERS</i>
<i>REVIEW OF NEW LYONS' BOOKS</i> |
| 12:00 NOON | BUFFET LUNCHEON |
| 1:00 P.M. | A PROGRAM OF SORTS
<i>STORIES & READINGS</i>
<i>TALES OF Unbelievable FEATS</i> |
| 3:30 | VISIT LYONS FARM |
| 6:30 | DINNER + HAPPY JACK'S |



